

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1313
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INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
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USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 USNATO 04515

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, MPOL
SUBJECT: NATO FORCE GOALS FOR 1979-1984: DRC DISCUSSION
OF MAY 3

REFS: (A) USNATO 4439 (DTG 030750Z MAY 78),
(B) USNATO 4406 (DTG 011103Z MAY 78)

.
SUMMARY: THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) MADE ONLY
RELATIVELY MINOR CHANGES TO THE DRAFT GENERAL REPORT ON
NATO FORCE GOALS FOR 1979-1984 (REF A) DURING ITS MAY 3
MEETING. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE TO THE REPORT
REFLECTS A REVISED INPUT BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE (MC)
THAT EMPHASIZES REDUCTIONS AND UNCERTAINTIES IN MARITIME
PROGRAMS. THE DRC REJECTED SACLANT REP'S ATTEMPT TO INJECT
THIS ISSUE INTO OTHER SECTIONS OF THE REPORT. THE
INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) WILL ISSUE A REVISED TEXT ON
MAY 5 FOR PERMREP ADDRESSAL ON MAY 9. WE PROVIDE BELOW
THE AGREED CHANGES TO THE REF A TEXT AND SIGNIFICANT
COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS. END SUMMARY.
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1. INTRODUCTION.

. - PARA 2. AT US REP'S (BADER) SUGGESTION, COMMITTEE
AMENDED THE LAST CLAUSE OF THE PENULTIMATE SENTENCE TO
READ: "THE TWO EXERCISES ARE INTERRELATED AND COMPLE-
MENTARY" AS OPPOSED TO "MUCH GROUND IS COVERED BY THE

MEASURES RECOMMENDED IN THE TWO EXERCISES."

. - PARA 4. AT THE INSISTENCE OF THE SACLANT (COTE) AND MC (GELUYCKENS) REPS, WHO STATED THAT SACLANT'S FORCE PROPOSALS, IN CONTRAST TO THOSE OF SACEUR, DID NOT MEET MINIMUM MILITARY REQUIREMENTS BUT, RATHER, "FELL WELL SHORT" OF THESE REQUIREMENTS, THE DRC REVISED THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THIS PARA BY SUBSTITUTING THE PHRASE "WERE ESSENTIALLY A COMPROMISE BETWEEN TOTAL MILITARY REQUIREMENTS AND A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES LIKELY TO BECOME AVAILABLE" FOR "REPRESENTED MINIMUM MILITARY REQUIREMENTS." COMMITTEE ALSO DELETED THE PHRASE "UP TO 1984" IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE.

2. POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY.

. - PARA 5. DRC SUBSTITUTED THE PHRASE "ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES" FOR "THE ESSENCE OF THE EXERCISE" IN THE SECOND SENTENCE.

. - PARA 7. IN THE LAST SENTENCE, THE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTED THE PHRASE "SIGNIFICANT INCREASES ABOVE PLANNED EXPENDITURES ON DEFENSE" FOR "GREATER ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC RESOURCES IN FAVOR OF DEFENSE."

. - PARA 8. DRC AGREED WITH TURKISH REP'S (ERGIN)
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SUGGESTION TO REVISE THE LAST LINE OF THIS PARA TO READ:
"RESTRICTIONS ON DEFENSE AID AND SALES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT" VICE "RESTRICTIONS ON MILITARY SALES AND AID PROCUREMENT." (NEW LANGUAGE HAD BEEN USED IN TURKISH COUNTRY CHAPTER AND APPROVED BY ANKARA.)

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- PARA 10. IN THE LAST CLAUSE OF THE FIRST SENTENCE, THE PHRASE "FOR SOME" WAS ADDED BEFORE THE WORDS "THEIR PRESENT FORCE LEVELS..."

. - PARA 12. TO REFLECT MORE ACCURATELY THE NATURE OF COUNTRIES' ACCEPTANCE OF THE FORCE GOALS, THE DRC AMENDED THIS PARA TO READ: "IN RECOGNITION OF THIS SITUATION, MOST COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ACCEPT, AS A REASONABLE CHALLENGE, FORCE GOALS WHICH, TOGETHER WITH NATIONAL PLANS, WILL CALL FOR INCREASES IN DEFENSE EXPENDITURES GOING BEYOND 3 PERCENT."

. - PARA 14. IN THE LAST SENTENCE, THE PHRASE "ESTIMATED TO BE IN THE REGION OF" WAS ADDED BEFORE THE WORDS "THREE TIMES HIGHER THAN IN THE WARSAW PACT."

3. DEFICIENCIES/PROBLEMS AS A RESULT OF DEFERMENT OR ADJUSTMENTS IN FORCE PROPOSALS (PARA 17). SACLANT REP, STRESSING THAT HE WAS UNDER PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM ADMIRAL KIDD, PRESSED HARD FOR MENTION, IN THIS PARA AND IN THE CONCLUSIONS SECTION, OF THE "SERIOUS SITUATION FACING SACLANT" IN LIGHT OF THE REDUCTIONS IN US NAVAL MODERNIZATION PROGRAMS AND UNCERTAINTY REGARDING FUTURE US MARITIME COMMITMENTS TO NATO. HE STATED THAT ADMIRAL KIDD HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE PREVIOUS US SHIPBUILDING PROGRAM, WHICH WOULD HAVE REMEDIATED MAJOR QUANTITATIVE

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SHORTFALLS, BUT NOW WAS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY THE RECENT REDUCTIONS FROM THAT PROGRAM. AFTER A LENGTHY TRILOGUE BETWEEN THE CHAIRMAN (MUMFORD) AND THE US AND SACLANT REPS, DURING WHICH SEVERAL ADDITIONS TO THE PARA 17 TEXT WERE CONSIDERED, THE COMMITTEE FINALLY AGREED TO LEAVE THE TEXT UNCHANGED BUT TO ADD A MODERATE CLAUSE TO PARA 31 OF THE CONCLUSIONS SECTIONS REFLECTING THE MC (AS DISTINCT FROM DRC) CONCERN OVER THIS MATTER. THOUGH THE SACLANT REP GAINED INITIAL SUPPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND THE UK (PETERS) AND MC REPS, THE US REP, WITH STRONG SUPPORT FROM THE SHAPE REP (SCHWEITZER) PERSUADED THE COMMITTEE TO REJECT ADDING LANGUAGE THAT WOULD DRAW ATTENTION TO THE UNCERTAINTY IN US NAVAL PROGRAMS ON THE GROUNDS THAT (A) THE US SHOULD NOT BE SINGLED OUT FOR ATTENTION WHEN THERE WERE OTHER SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES ACROSS THE BOARD; (B) THE MARITIME FORCE

GOALS FOR THE US, ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION, HAD BEEN
RETAINED BY THE DRC; (C) REVIEW OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
PLANS AND IDENTIFICATION OF DEFICIENCIES WAS MORE
APPROPRIATELY THE FOCUS OF THE ANNUAL DEFENSE REVIEW
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THAN THE FORCE GOALS REPORT, (D) IT WOULD BE PREMATURE
TO ADDRESS PROVISIONAL PROGRAMS AT THIS TIME AND THE US
WOULD PROVIDE DETAILED INFORMATION ON NAVAL
PROGRAMS IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF THE AUTUMN REVIEW; AND
(E) SACLAN'T'S CONCERN WAS FULLY AND MORE APPROPRIATELY
REFLECTED IN THE MC INPUT TO THE GENERAL REPORT
(PARAS 18-21).

4. MC COMMENTS (PARAS 18-21). THE MC REP PROVIDED A
NEW AGREED MC TEXT FOR THIS SECTION, WHICH EMPHASIZED
THE REDUCTIONS AND UNCERTAINTIES IN MARITIME PROGRAMS.
THOUGH SEVERAL REPS (NOTABLY THE US AND UK) EXPRESSED
THE VIEW THAT THE NEW TEXT PRESENTED THE MC VIEW IN
LESS CLEAR AND LESS COMPELLING TERMS THAN THE PREVIOUS
DRAFT, THE DRC ACCEPTED THAT THIS INPUT TO THE REPORT
WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THEMCMC AND NOT THE DRC.
ACCORDINGLY, THE DRC RESTRICTED ITS SUGGESTIONS TO SEVERAL
EDITORIAL CHANGES, WHICH THE MC REP ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO
FULL MC APPROVAL. THE REVISED TEXT, INCORPORATING DRC
PROPOSED CHANGES, FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

III. MILITARY COMMITTEE COMMENTS ON DRAFT FORCE GOALS

18. THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IN CONSULTATION WITH
THE MNC'S HAS UPDATED THE RISK ASSESSMENT PREVIOUSLY
SUBMITTED WITH THE FORCE PROPOSALS 1979-1984 TO TAKE INTO
CONSIDERATION THE CHANGES WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE TO FORCE
PROPOSALS AS A RESULT OF THE REVIEW.

19. IT IS THE VIEW OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE THAT
THE DEFERMENTS AND REDUCTIONS MADE ARE SUBSTANTIAL. THE
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DANGER IS PARTICULARLY GREAT IN THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN
REGIONS OF ACE WHERE SO MANY KEY FORCE PROPOSALS HAVE
BEEN DEFERRED OR CANNOT BE IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT EXTERNAL
ASSISTANCE. THERE IS ALSO INCREASING CONCERN ABOUT THE
FUTURE OF NATO'S CAPABILITIES IN THE ACLANT AREA. THIS

IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN VIEW OF THE APPARENT UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MARITIME FORCE GOALS. ANY SIGNIFICANT DOWNWARD CHANGE IN THE SHIPBUILDING PLANS REPORTED IN THE 1977 NATO DEFENSE REVIEW WOULD HAVE INCREASINGLY SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS ON SACLAN'T'S ABILITY TO CARRY OUT HIS MISSION.

. 20. THE SUBSTANTIAL DEFERMENT OF IMPROVEMENTS REFLECTED BY THE DRAFT FORCE GOALS IS BOUND TO RESULT IN AN INCREASE IN THE EXISTING RISK FOR THE ALLIANCE ESPECIALLY TOWARD THE END OF THE PERIOD. THIS IS A MATTER OF SERIOUS CONCERN. CLEARLY, MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO PREVENT THE CAPABILITY GAP BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT FROM WIDENING FURTHER.

. 21. THE MILITARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE DRAFT FORCE GOALS BE ADOPTED AS NATO FORCE GOALS, RECOGNIZING THAT IN MANY CASES THESE GOALS FALL SHORT OF MNC'S REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY OUT THEIR MISSION FULLY AND TO MAINTAIN A CREDIBLE DETERRENT AND DEFENSE POSTURE. IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUS CONCERN EXPRESSED IN THE MILITARY COMMITTEE ASSESSMENT, NATIONS ARE URGED TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION AND EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING IN COUNTRY PLANS THE DEFERRED GOALS TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE. END TEXT.

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5. CONCLUSIONS.

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. - PARA 22. AT US SUGGESTION, COMMITTEE AGREED TO DELETE THE FIRST SENTENCE AND THE WORDS "THIS YEAR" IN THE SECOND SENTENCE, AND ADD THE FOLLOWING LEAD PHRASE: IN "RESPONSE TO THE 1977 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, ALMOST ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES..."

. - PARA 24. DRC REPLACED "CATER" WITH "WOULD PROVIDE" AND ADDED "ESTIMATED BEFORE "ANNUAL REAL INCREASES."

. - PARA 26. THE TERM "PLANNING PERIOD" REPLACED "MEDIUM TERM."

. - PARAS 29-31. SINCE IT WAS REDUNDANT WITH PARA 30, DRC DELETED PARA 31. US REP, SUPPORTED BY UK REP, OPPOSED SACLAN REP'S ATTEMPT TO INSERT LANGUAGE IN PARA 29 CONCERNING THE UNCERTAINTY IN MARITIME PROGRAMS, STATING THAT IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE TO REGISTER THIS CONCERN AS AN MC VIEW IN PARA 30, RATHER THAN THE RESULT OF A DRC DEFERRAL OF FORCE GOALS -- THE SUBJECT OF PARA 29 -- RESPONDING ALONG THE LINES DESCRIBED IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PARA 3 ABOVE. US REP SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED PROPOSAL OF THE CHAIRMAN, UK AND SACLAN REPS THAT THE DRC SPECIFICALLY ENDORSE THE MC VIEW ON THIS SCORE.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS: UNCHANGED.

7. THE IS WILL CIRCULATE A REVISED REPORT ON MAY 5 THAT PERMREPS WILL ADDRESS ON MAY 9. GLITMAT

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Message Attributes

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